

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-04

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 100714

FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE WASHDC INFO AMMAN BEIRUT JIDDA KUWAIT
SANAA TEHRAN TEL AVIV FROM PARIS 23 MAY 73:

QUOTE PARIS 14394

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR, SA

SUBJ: FEISAL VISIT TO PARIS

DEPT PASS USINT CAIRO

REF: PARIS 13856

1. WHILE MIDDLE EAST DIRECTORATE OF QUAI HAS TENDED TO STRESS
RELATIVELY MODERATE POSITIONS ADOPTED BY KING FEISAL DURING
RECENT VISIT (PARE 3, REFTEL, FROM OTHER SOURCES WE HAVE
GATHERED THAT FEISAL TOOK MORE EXTREME POSITIONS AND PAINTED
RATHER ALARMIST PICTURE OF SITUATION IN MIDDLE EAST. ACCORDING
TO QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR ALGERIAN AFFAIRS WHO HAD DISCUSSED
FEISAL' S MEETINGS WITH OFFICIAL GOF INTERPRETERS, FEISAL TOOK
VERY TOUGH AND EMOTIONAL POSITIONS WHICH WERE BOTH ANTI- ISRAELI
AND PRO- PALESTINIAN. VEHEMENCE OF FEISAL' S REMARKS REPORTEDLY
CAME AS CONSIDERABLE SURPRISE TO FRENCH. DIRECTOR
ARAB LEAGUE OFFICE IN PARIS TOLD EMBOFF THAT FEISAL HAD ALSO
EXPRESSED SERIOUS CONCERN ABOUT INTERNAL SITUATION IN EGYPT
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AND ABOUT DANGERS OF RESUMPTIONS OF HOSTILITIES.

2. DIRECTOR SAID HE HAD ALSO HEARD THAT SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTER SAQQAF, WHO DID NOT ACCOMPANY KING, WAS NOW IN CAIRO TO NEGOTIATE SOME FORM OF DEFENSE AGREEMENT BETWEEN EGYPT AND SAUDI ARABIA. DIRECTOR COMMENTED THAT KING GAVE IMPRESSION OF BEING DISENCHANTED WITH US MIDDLE EAST POLICY. US, HE SAID, SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT DANGERS INHERENT IN POSSIBLE LOSS OF EVEN BEST FRIENDS IN AREA, AS IT DECIDED ON FUTURE POLICIES.

3. COMMENT: ARAB LEAGUE DIRECTOR IS ALSO EGYPTIAN DIPLOMAT AND HIS REMARKS OBVIOUSLY SELF- SERVING AND MUST BE CONSIDERED IN PART MOTIVATED BY DESIRE TO BRING ABOUT CHANGE OF US POLICY. HE WOULD, HOWEVER, ALSO HAVE BEEN WELL BRIEFED ON RESULTS OF SAUDI KING' S VISIT AND HIS COMMENTS MAY, THEREFORE, CONTAIN AT LEAST SOME ELEMENT OF TRUTH.
IRWIN UNQUOTE RUSH

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